

## Evaluating Purpose

Determining the purpose of a website helps you figure out what is the intent behind the information. A website can have great design and be well-written, but if there is bias or it does not relate to the context of your assignment, it may not be appropriate to use.

Here are some questions for evaluating the purpose of a website:

- Is the publisher or author trying to sell you something? Are there ads?
- Who or what is behind the content? Can you identify an author?
  - Tip: Try reading the "About Us" or mission statement to learn more



If your resource is credible and authoritative, consider its role in the context of your paper:

Timeliness	Audience
<p>Does the publication date impact your final assignment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current event topics would require recent stories, while older sources may be better for historical assignments.</li> </ul>	<p>Who is the target audience?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources that are meant for children are likely not appropriate for research. Instructors may <i>require</i> scholarly sources.</li> </ul>
Depth of Information	Breadth of Information
<p>Does the source provide deep, thorough analysis of a specific topic?</p>	<p>Does the source focus broadly on a number of topics?</p>